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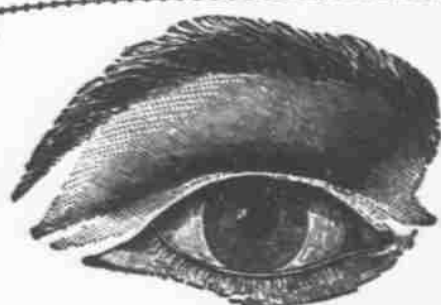
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SIREN AND SONS.

W. F. Murray, postmaster of Boston, is only thirty-three years old.

General Horatio Gates Gibson, the oldest living graduate of West Point, left the academy in 1847 at the age of twenty for service in the Mexican war.

Professor H. Julius Eggeling, professor of Sanskrit and comparative philology at Edinburgh university since 1875, has resigned his professorship on account of the war. Dr. Eggeling was born in Germany in 1842 and has a worldwide reputation.

Dr. W. A. P. Martin, who recently celebrated his eighty-seventh birthday, is the oldest Protestant missionary in China, having been engaged in his labors in that country for sixty-four years. In point of service it is believed that his record stands alone. He was born in Indiana.

Sir Edward Goschen, until recently British ambassador at Berlin, is of German ancestry, but was born and educated in England and married an American, the daughter of the late Darius Clark of New York, who had immense interests in Argentina. Sir Edward Goschen is a banker, as were his father and grandfather before him.

Short Stories.

Holland pays old age pensions to more than 80,000 persons, who are over seventy years of age.

It is stated that no city in the world produces newspapers in such a variety of languages as New York.

In the per capita consumption of tobacco Holland leads the world, with Belgium second and the United States third.

Cameras that will photograph objects many miles away, the details of which are carefully guarded secrets, have been added to the equipment of the United States army signal corps.

Over 50,000 visits are made every year to the free clinics of the University of California medical school. During the past year the number of patients treated at the out department of the University hospital in San Francisco increased by more than 50 per cent.

Pert Personals.

Caruso entertained the idle of Rome by singing for them. In this country he gets paid for it.—Baltimore American.

George Bernard Shaw says the thinking public numbers less than 50,000. Shaw modestly refrained from telling us the names of the other three or four.—Detroit Free Press.

Adelina Patti, singing at seventy-two before the king of England, contributes her bit of evidence that not all the vigor and valor of the world are in its armies.—New York World.

Winston Churchill is being very much pulled and hauled these days, raked over the coals and panned. At least he seems to be no longer first lord of the admiralty.—New York Sun.

Echoes of the War.

A little trigger is a dangerous thing.—Life.

Belgium will be one great iron mine when the cannonading is over.—Springfield Republican.

Some of the war critics are complimentary. They always refer to it as "civilized warfare."—Atlanta Constitution.

The actual assassin of the Archduke Francis Ferdinand gets off with twenty years in prison. Some way or other, the penalty on the rest of Europe seems out of proportion.—New York World.

SHARP AND SHORT.

There are few things more uncertain than life's certainties.

But it does seem rather queer not to have congress in session.

All things considered, there is no incentive to give history an encore.

There may be sermons in stones, but you don't get them out by stamping your toe.

Wild oats will take out of your soil what no system of crop rotation can ever put back.

The insurance of Westminster abbey is like making a money estimate of English history.

All that goes up has to come down, but it doesn't work the other way with a torpedoed cruiser.

Contentment cannot dwell where thoughts of what might have been are regularly entertained.

Those who have all the say in war do no fighting, and those who do all the fighting have no say.

A Detroit man has invented a suit of armor for army mules. It will take a brave soldier to act as valet.

It's a strange thing that usually the person who tells it first is the one who kicks most when a "secret" reaches the third party.

Edison says the war will leave the world as round as ever. But some what scarred and scarred in the north temperate zone.

If, as Judge Gary says, the war in Europe is merely a matter of dollars and cents, the participants are not getting the worth of their money.

BRIGHT BRIEFS.

Blood will tell—and so will a black eye.

Politeness rarely tells the whole truth.

It is anomalous that Pacific islands should be prizes of war.

There are a lot of things the world needs worse than twenty-one inch guns.

All this talk about better babies is useless so far as those who have one is concerned.

There are many things in war that look easy in theory, but do not work out in practice.

All fools do not part with their money, the old proverb to the contrary notwithstanding.

The aeroplane not only adds to the horrors of war, but to the imaginary horrors of war also.

We have heard of some people who say they could live on music. Then it must be on note meal.

Perhaps we can do without Paris modes as well as we can dispense with Wall street quotations.

A strategical retreat is the knack of making your own rout read like a glorious and decisive victory.

If charity were as reckless as military ambition in its expenditures the result might be confusing, but it would be far less sorrowful.

The advice contained in the last words of King Charles of Roumania, "Save the fatherland, but do not shed blood," is magnanimous, but in these times it might be hard to follow.

Tales of Cities.

Brooklyn supplies citizens with shade trees at cost.

Chicago has one homicide per month for every 110,000 inhabitants.

Wooden roofs cannot now be laid in Boston owing to danger from fire.

New Orleans is rapidly exterminating its rat population, and landing of rats from ships is now prevented by tin shields on cables and other devices.

Vienna is the capital both of the Austro-Hungarian empire and of the Austrian half of the dual monarchy. It is the seat of the reichsrath or Austrian parliament and one of the most beautiful cities in the world.

Train and Track.

Electric railways in the United States own 40,470 miles of track.

All steel cars run by trolley now between New York and Boston.

A railway for tourists is to be built along Lake Como from Como to Chiavenna.

Locomotives for the Sahara desert line have V shaped hoods in front to cut through sandstorms.

To protect a Swiss railroad from frequent avalanches numerous snow retaining walls have been built on a mountain side at points from which the slides start, to hold the snow until it melts.

The Cookbook.

When cooking apples add a pinch of salt. This makes them tender and improves the flavor.

When making bread pudding, line the dish or tin with thin paste, put in the bread pudding, then cover with paste and bake in a slow oven. This is a great improvement.

The best way to warm up a joint is to wrap it in thickly greased paper and keep it covered while in the oven. By having it covered thus the steam will prevent the meat from becoming hard and dry, and the joint will get hot through in less time.

Pert Personals.

Huerta says he does not want to return to Mexico. That old boy isn't pickled all the time.—Detroit Free Press.

George Bernard Shaw says the thinking public numbers less than 50,000. Perhaps the remainder don't think he's worth thinking about.—Washington Post.

The Duke of Manchester, who says that he owes less than \$5,000, should have a care, or the first thing he knows folks will be saying that he isn't a regular duke.—Boston Transcript.

Industrial Items.

Over 16,000 Danish women belong to trades unions.

New York city has more than 10,000 boot and shoe workers.

There are 10,000 chandelier and brass workers in Greater New York.

German child labor laws define children as boys and girls less than thirteen years of age and those older who still attend school.

Electric Sparks.

Electric power is generally used in watchmaking.

For the last quarter century the annual increase in the use of electricity has averaged 20 per cent.

Doctors have decided that an electric shock kills a man by destroying the rhythm of the heart beats and acting upon the lungs like an overdose of an anesthetic.

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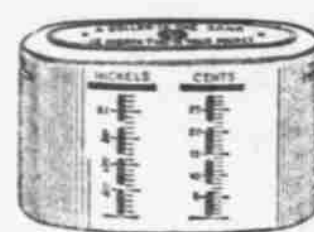
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Current Comment.

The United States has become the storehouse of supplies from which the world is drawing.—Baltimore American.

The Wish-I-Hadn't club now has a large waiting list, including names from all parts of the civilized globe.—Washington Star.

Courses in salesmanship are offered by day and night the world over. But what most of us need is instruction in the complementary art of purchase.—Boston Herald.

Alaska's gold output last year was about \$800,000 more than the United States paid for the whole country. Your Uncle Samuel always was a good trader.—St. Louis Republic.

A severe winter may help to end the European war with a freeze-out.

There are never any such conflicting reports about the victories of peace.

The man who does not mind his own business is not the man you want to mind your business.

Perhaps the reason soldiers can fight on small rations is that they don't have much stomach for more.

A political economist says the war, if it lasts eighteen months, will cost about \$18,000,000,000. Maybe it will, but it certainly isn't worth it.

One nifty man after living on a diet for twenty years in the hope of reaching a hundred died at ninety-eight from tripping over a rug. What's the use?

Europe needs only keep on for a little longer to get what she has not had for a long time—large armies of veterans; also proportionately larger military cemeteries.

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Echoes of the War.

Give us peace—not the peace of death.—Chicago News.

And after it is all over Europe will turn to and make beggars or soldiers out of its orphans.—Baltimore American.

"Heroism gone wrong" would not be an altogether bad description of the mad conflict in Europe.—Providence Journal.

The censors may be saving us a good many shocks by not letting us know how horrible the war really is.—Indianapolis News.

Abandonment of next year's peace conference at The Hague follows logically this year's submission of argument to armament.—New York World.

Train and Track.

All steel cars are being experimented with on several railway lines in India.

Experiments are under way in England with a compound rail for street railways, the worn portions of which can be replaced without disturbing the roadbed.

The total railway mileage of the world is about 504,840 miles. Of this Europe has 199,346 miles and the United States 248,888 miles. Thus it will be seen that our country has 49,542 miles more than the whole European continent.

Many a man who says nothing saws precious little wood.

Will Russia or Germany have Turkey for Thanksgiving?

To run a straight furrow you must look a long way ahead.

The heyday of youth isn't in it with the gray day of manhood.